

not a single return in any precinct has annexed to it any certificate that any oath at all was administered. Now what says the law. Article 4, Section 227, Public Local Laws, as re enacted by Act of 1867, chapter 144, and now in force prohibits, "227." The provisions of the preceding Sections of this said Article relating to elections shall apply to all elections to take place hereafter in the City of Baltimore, whether Federal or State or Municipal, and all elections to take place hereafter in the City of Baltimore shall be by ballot, and shall be held and proceed with the realms thereof made in conformity with the provisions of the 35th Article of Public General Laws, except in so far as the same may be modified by the provisions of this Article as amended at the January Session of the General Assembly, in the year 1867, in relation thereto; and no election to be held in the City of Baltimore, whether Federal, State or Municipal, shall be valid unless held under and in conformity with the provisions of this Article in relation to elections as amended as aforesaid. &c.

It will be observed, that this section first incorporates the provisions of the General Laws relating to elections into the Local Law, Article 4, and then declares, positively, that no election in the City of Baltimore shall be valid unless held "under and in conformity with the provisions of this Article in relation to elections.

To this very comprehensive provision the only exceptions are those contained in the next Section, viz.

"228. No election to be held under the provisions of this Article, and which shall be otherwise valid, shall be held invalid because of any failure of the said Board of Police, or the said Judges, to make the advertisements hereinbefore required, or because of any disqualification, or want of qualification, of any Judge or Judges of Election, or any member of said Board."

Observe here that the only qualification prescribed for Judges of election are, that they shall be "discreet persons" and "legal voters of the precinct for which they shall respectively be appointed," (see Article 4, Sections 205, 206, Public Local Laws.)

Now, it is to be noted that it is only in case the election is "otherwise valid" that the exceptions made in Section 228, above quoted have any force. Those who would rely upon either exception, must, therefore, establish the fact that the election is "otherwise valid"—that is to say, in every other respect valid.

If, therefore, we prove the existence of any other defect than those expressly excepted as aforesaid, or even if we